

DRAFT MINUTES

Cranford Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of Cranford Parish Council held at Cranford Memorial Hall on Thursday 28th July 2022

Present: Cllr S Pickard, Cllr A Gorton, Cllr F Gallagher, Cllr S Holford, Cllr I Jones, Cllr T Martin, Pat Bird (Clerk)

Cllr M Rowley (Unitary Councillor for items 22/029 and 22/035,

Matthew Thomas (Michael Sparks Associates), Tony Watkins (First Renewables), Jim Beatty and Mr Beatty senior (landowner), Paul Woods (North Northamptonshire Council as an observer) – all for item 22/029

Three residents for items 22/029 and 22/035

22/029 Matthew Thomas and Tony Watkins gave a brief verbal presentation regarding the proposed Kettering Energy Park which is to be located adjacent to the Burton Wold windfarm site. The objective of the Energy Park is to co-locate employment uses adjacent to the wind farm to make use of the renewable energy supplied by the existing wind turbines and also that of the consented solar farms that will be constructed at the site. In addition to the employment uses proposed at the site, opportunities for other appropriate uses including battery storage and hydroponics are also being considered.

A number of studies are to be undertaken to help form the Draft Masterplan which will be prepared in consultation with local communities and stakeholders. The Draft Masterplan is due to be released later this year.

A website providing information regarding the Energy Park will be launched shortly and once available, the Parish Council will ensure residents are informed of this.

22/035 As Cllr M Rowley and three residents were in attendance for the Public Participation item, this item was moved up the Agenda.

The issue of the wall in St Andrew's Lane was raised and Cllr Rowley responded by saying that he had received a report from Richard Marlow at North Northamptonshire Council in which it stated that the wall is not listed, there is no requirement for it to be rebuilt, and that the matter is now closed. A question was raised whether the protected view had been considered by Richard. Cllr Rowley advised that he would check with Richard and advise at a later date.

Cllr Rowley advised that the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy which runs to 2031 is out for consultation. He also mentioned that the decision relating to the harmonisation across North Northamptonshire for the kerbside collection of garden waste has been deferred until September. The report originally due to be considered in July recommended an opt-in year-round service with an annual subscription fee per bin of £40.

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22/030 Cllr Bradley was unable to attend due to personal circumstances.

22/031 The Clerk stated there was an inaccuracy in Minute 22/021 (c) the date should have read 24th July not 24th June as stated. Subject to this being noted on the Minutes, it was **RESOLVED** that that the Minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 2022 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting

22/032 Matters arising

22/03 – Cllr Bradley has retracted his resignation and would like to lead on a project looking on how Parish Council meetings can be made inclusive to those with a hearing impairment.

22/07 - Dog walking paddock appears to be operational.

22/020 - The Clerk will chase for guidance on responding to planning applications in Cranford

22/021 - Parish Council website is now live, new domain <https://cranfordparishcouncil.uk>

22/022 - The Clerk will progress the quotes for the tree stakes

22/023 - NCALC training – Councillors to confirm their availability for NCALC training courses offered

22/025 a) - Speeding in Duck End is covered in the Chairman's update

d) - NNC have advised that the cost of relocating a litter/dog poo bin is £30

22/033 It was **RESOLVED** to delegate to Cllr Bradley, the lead on a project to ensure the Parish Council meetings are inclusive to those with hearing impairments and for Cllr Bradley to report back to the council, findings and recommendations at the meeting in September, if possible, or if not, the meeting in November. The Clerk is to support Cllr Bradley with this project.

22/034 Interests

Cllr Holford declared an interest in Planning Applications NK/2022/0433 and NK/2022/0434 which were to be discussed under item 22/040

22/036 Internal Control

Cllr T Martin undertook the Internal Control function and having checked the bank statements, bank reconciliation, income received (including VAT claimed), invoices, orders for invoices, receipts for the Clerk's reimbursements, the Clerk's payslip, and the VAT to be claimed, reported that everything was in order

22/037 Finance Report and Schedule of Payments

It was **RESOLVED** that the Finance Report dated 25th July 2022 be noted, the three payments paid, be noted, and the payments due, be approved

Payments paid			
To	For	Amount (£)	Legislation
Arthur J Gallagher	Insurance	404.98	Local Government Act 1972 s.111
Community Heartbeat	Spare defibrillator pads	60.00	Public Health Act 1936 s.234
Artisan Signs	Updating of Chairman's board	36.00	Local Government Act 1972 s.111
Payments due			
To	For	Amount (£)	Legislation
Clerk	July salary	291.99	Local Government Act 1972 s.111
Clerk	August salary	291.99	Local Government Act 1972 s.112

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Clerk	Reimbursement	145.99	Local Government Act 1972 s.112
NCALC	CiLCA course (Clerk)	594.00	Local Government Act 1972 s.111
NCALC	Subscription, Internal Audit Service, DPO	509.49	Local Government Act 1972 s.143 Data Protection Act 2018
SLCC	Membership (Clerk)	98.00	Local Government Act 1972 s.143

The Clerk was asked to investigate the options for a payment card for the Council which could be used for online payments as required instead of the Clerk using their card then having to claim reimbursement

22/038 Having considered the funding request from the Chairman of Cranford Memorial Hall in respect of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, it was **RESOLVED** to donate £137.21 to Cranford Memorial Hall as the Council had, in March, approved a commitment of £300 to support the village's events to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and had subsequently spent £162.79 on a tree which the Chairman planted in the churchyard at St John's Church.

22/039 Having considered the request from North Northants Community First Responders, it was **RESOLVED** to purchase two catastrophic bleed kits, at a cost of £170, and to pursue the opportunity of the Basic Life Support training for the community. The Parish Council strongly felt that catastrophic bleed kits were essential in a rural area such as Cranford. The kits will be placed alongside the defibrillators

22/040 Planning Applications

NK/2022/0424 – Full Application

The Birches, 2 Rectory Hill, Cranford

Single storey rear extension

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council raises no objections to this

NK/2022/0241 - Renotification

Clarks Barn, Kettering Road, Cranford

Barn conversion to create 2 no. dwellings including utilising existing access and amenity land

As the 'new document' was the same as the one which was previously considered by the Council, It was **RESOLVED** that the Council makes no additional comments

NK/2022/0432 – Application for Listed Building Consent

10 Rectory Hill, Canford

Erection of garden room

As the garden room will not be visible from the public highway and does not affect the character of the building, it was **RESOLVED** that the Council raises no objections to this

Cllr Holford was advised that he could not take part in any discussions and not vote on the following two applications

NK/2022/0433 – Application for Listed Building Consent

5 St Andrews Lane, Cranford

Single storey rear infill extension, insert opening and stairs to internal wall, extend concrete flooring,

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rooflight to east elevation

As, although the infill extension is not visible from the public highway, the appearance of the listed building will be enhanced and the infill extension will restore the property to as it was, it was

RESOLVED that the Council raises no objection to this

NK/2022/0434 – Full Planning Permission

5 St Andrews Lane, Cranford

Single storey rear infill extension

As, this can be considered as an enhancement to the character of this listed building with traditional materials being used instead of a red brick wall, it was **RESOLVED** that the Council raises no objection to this.

22/041 Following consideration of the Cranford Village Maintenance Programme report, it was **RESOLVED** that the focus of the efforts should be on

1. Gateway improvements - with getting overgrown vegetation cut back, getting the entrance signs to the village cleaned, and planting to enhance the appearance of the entrances to the village and to encourage butterflies
2. High level path - getting the vegetation cut back
3. Jubilee Walk – planting to encourage butterflies

22/042 Cllr Gallagher provided a verbal update on the speed signs. Although Cllr Gallagher hasn't downloaded any data from the speed signs, he reported that the batteries in the speed sign in the High Street need recharging approximately every month and that the batteries in the one on Rectory Hill need recharging more frequently than this. The frequency of the battery recharging indicates a high volume of traffic using the High Street and Rectory Hill and the downloaded data will be able to verify this.

22/043 Chairman's updates

a) The Chairman planted a liquid amber tree, on behalf of the Parish Council, in the churchyard of St John's Church on 5th June., following a special service

b) The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk met with both the leaving Headteacher and new Headteacher of Cranford Primary School to explore collaboration opportunities. The School welcomed the speed sign in the High Street and will be interested to see any data captured by this. There are still concerns regarding drivers in Church Lane and the High Street during school drop off and pick up times. The School is keen to strengthen its community links and is looking to have a summer fayre next year

c) Several members of the Parish Council met with Ken Yarrow, Operations Manager Central West SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK to hear about the plans to reopen the Cranford Landfill Site for soil inputs only to finish the site restoration – this is expected to take 3 years and is a time limited restricted project. Up to 12 lorries a day will be delivering soil to the Site. Concerns were raised regarding the junction with the A510.

d) The Chairman and Clerk met with Ian Boyes, Assistant Community Liaison Officer (North Northants) Northamptonshire Highways, to discuss the gap between the bridge at Duck End and the

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Brook. Ian will arrange for a short section of pedestrian barrier rail to be installed to prevent accidental access down to the Brook. Ian will also investigate the position regarding the damage to the parapet wall near the Anglian Water substation.

Ian explained that 20 MPH advisory signs are being trialled and that Cranford may be able to try these. Whilst not suitable for the High Street, they may be appropriate for Duck End.

22/044 The Clerk reported that they had booked onto a NCALC VAT course to gain a better understanding of when VAT can be claimed by the Parish Council and when it can't

22/045 The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is on Thursday 22nd September starting at 7pm

22/046 The meeting closed at 21:07

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